



## Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Steven L. Beshear, Governor

Leonard K. Peters, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Mark A. Meade  
502-564-2141

### **Kentucky Division of Abandoned Mine Lands Announces Phase I of Letcher County Waterline Project** *Residents of the community of Mayking living in and around Pine Creek and Cram Creek will soon receive access to potable water supply*

**Frankfort, Ky.** (July 17, 2012) – Access to potable water will soon be available to 372 households in Letcher County.

The Department for Natural Resources' (DNR) Division of Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) announced today the award of contract and the start of construction for phase one of the Pine Creek/ Cram Creek /Pert Creek AML water supply project in Letcher County.

"A clean and safe water supply is something many Kentuckians take for granted, but that is something that many coalfield residents have not had for years. The Department for Natural Resources through the Abandoned Mine Land program is committed to supply municipal water to areas with ground water adversely affected by mining that occurred prior to 1982," said DNR Commissioner Steve Hohmann.

AML has found that agency-eligible pre-1982 mining has impacted much of the groundwater in the community of Mayking in both Pine and Cram Creeks, making these areas eligible for AML waterline assistance.

The project, with a memorandum of agreement between the Letcher Water and Sewer District and AML, totals \$3 million. The project will be operated by the Letcher Water and Sewer District. Ronnie Mullins and Sons Inc. of Elkhorn City, Kentucky was awarded the waterline installation contract with a low bid amount of \$2,197,927. Laurel Construction Company Inc. of London, Kentucky was awarded the storage tank contract with a bid of \$476,777. Bell Engineering of Lexington will provide engineering services.

The entire project will involve the installation of approximately 14.66 miles of water main in various sizes from 10" to ¾", a booster pump station, a hydro-pneumatic pump station, a 150,000 gallon water storage tank and the installation of water meters at 372 residences.

AML is authorized under Kentucky law (KRS.350) to abate hazards to public health, safety, and the environment from abandoned mine lands. To date, AML has expended more than \$99.2 million for waterline improvements and has provided more than 13,723 households with potable water supply in 24 coalfield counties in eastern, southern and western Kentucky.

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